U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Homeland Security

September 20, 2013

SENT VIA EMAIL TO: 6783-31702114@REQUESTS.MUCKROCK.COM

Mr. Jason Smathers
Muckrock

Re: **2013-IAFO-00109**

Dear Mr. Smathers:

This acknowledges receipt of your September 18, 2013, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A), "the most recent expense reports, going back for the past 12 months, for all employees or contractors, who works for Office of Intelligence and Analysis.

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Per Section 5.5(a) of the DHS FOIA regulations, 6 C.F.R. Part 5, the Department processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt. Although DHS' goal is to respond within 20 business days of receipt of your request, the FOIA does permit a 10-day extension of this time period. As your request seeks numerous documents that will necessitate a thorough and wide-ranging search, DHS will invoke a 10-day extension for your request, as allowed by Title 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B). We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner; however, there are currently 30 open requests ahead of yours.

The DHS FOIA Regulations set forth six factors to examine in determining whether the applicable legal standard for a fee waiver has been met:

(1) Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government;"

(2) Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities;

(3) Whether disclosure of the requested information will contribute to the understanding of the public at large, as opposed to the individual understanding of the requestor or a narrow segment of interested persons;

(4) Whether the contribution to public understanding of government operations or activities will be "significant;"

(5) Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure; and

(6) Whether the magnitude of any identified commercial interest to the requestor is sufficiently large in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is primarily in the commercial interest of the requestor.

Beyond some general statements about Muckrock's ability to disseminate information, you have not detailed how the release of the financial data you seek will make a significant contribution to the public's understanding of DHS operations.

Provisions of the Act allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. We shall charge you for records in accordance with the DHS Interim FOIA regulations as they apply to non-commercial requestors. As a non-commercial requestor you will be charged 10-cents a page for duplication, although the first 100 pages are free, as are the first two hours of search time, after which you will pay the per quarter-hour rate ($4.00, $7.00, $10.25) of the searcher. You agreed to pay up to $50.00 for processing, with a limit of 10 hrs. of search time and 200 pages. You will be contacted before any further fees are accrued

We will query the appropriate components of DHS for responsive records. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for determination of releasability. Please be assured that our office will respond to your request as expeditiously as possible. We appreciate your patience as we proceed with your request.

Your request has been assigned reference number **2013-IAFO-00109.** Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. You may contact this office at (202) 447-4883.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Waters

Priscilla Waters
FOIA Officer
Office of Intelligence and Analysis